

light head-breezes and protracted calms, from Cyprus to Rhodes. For my own views on this Shearwater, *cf.* Ibis, 1887, p. 262.

231. LITTLE GREBE. *Podiceps fluviatilis*.

Cf. Guillemard, Ibis, 1888, p. 113. *. G.

In bringing my list to a conclusion, I will only say that I cannot consider it as by any means a complete one of the birds of Cyprus. My own visit to the island was of short duration, and my excursions were hampered by a variety of causes. Pearce's collections were very meagre and unsatisfactory, and I have reason to believe that many specimens collected by him for me never reached my hands. It is to Dr. Guillemard that we are principally indebted for the little that has reached us on the subject of Cyprian ornithology, and he was much hindered by bad weather, as also, I fear, more than he has told us, by ill-health, and by that which is always with the traveller in Cyprus, the stolid apathy and untruthfulness of the Greek natives. I would strongly advise any young member of the B. O. U. who may be hesitating whither to take a three-months' run on the shores of the Mediterranean, to lay his course for Cyprus, and to manage to arrive there about the middle or end of January, to take a good retriever, an abundant supply of insect-powder and arsenical soap, and a well-rooted disbelief in the modern Greek.

XXXIII.—*Notes on some recently described Species of*
Dendrocolaptidæ. By P. L. SLATER.

(Plate XI.)

THE authorities of the U.S. National Museum have lately most kindly sent me over for examination the typical specimens of some newly described species of *Dendrocolaptidæ* which I was anxious to see. Amongst them is an example of the striking new form, *Berlepschia rikeri**, of which, by the kind permission of the lenders, I am able now to give a

* *Picolaptes rikeri*, Ridgw. Pr. U.S. N. M. ix. p. 523 (1886); *Berlepschia rikeri*, Ridgw. op. cit. x. p. 151 (1887).

figure (Plate XI.). As lately pointed out by Mr. Ridgway, *Berlepschia* has nothing to do with *Picolaptes*, as at first supposed, although the tail-feathers are slightly stiffened, but belongs to the subfamily Philydorinæ, and may, perhaps, be most conveniently placed, as he has suggested, near *Pseudocolaptes*. But *Berlepschia* differs from *Pseudocolaptes* in its longer, thinner, and more compressed bill, with the upper mandible rather more incurved and the culmen more elevated. Besides this, the wings are more pointed, the tarsi shorter, and the feet much weaker. The rectrices are twelve in number, much graduated, as in *Pseudocolaptes*, but much more pointed at their ends.

The coloration of this curious type is, as will be seen by our figure, quite peculiar, although the ferruginous-red back and tail at once betray its Dendrocolaptine affinities. A curious point is that the barred under surface is carried down completely over the crissum.

Berlepschia is one of the discoveries of Mr. C. B. Riker, of New York city, and was obtained by him along with other birds, of which Mr. Ridgway has lately given us a list (Pr. U.S. N. M. x. p. 516), at Diamantina, a plantation near Santarem, on the Lower Amazons, in June and July 1887.

I subjoin Mr. Ridgway's description of the species:—

“Head and neck streaked with deep black and pure white, the streaks narrowest on auriculars, the white ones narrower on pileum and cervix, broader on chin and throat, where the black is reduced to a narrow edging to the feathers; remaining lower parts black, varied with white, the markings changing gradually from an irregular rhomboid and guttate longitudinal form on chest, to regular transverse bars on lower tail-coverts, where the white bars are decidedly narrower than the black ones; back, scapulars, wing-coverts, tertials, rump, upper tail-coverts, and tail uniform bright rufous, the feathers of back with slightly paler shafts; secondaries with outer webs partly or wholly rufous; alula, primary-coverts, primaries, and inner webs of secondaries plain dull black. Length (skin) 8 inches, wing 4·10, tail 3·65, culmen (exposed) 1·20, bill from nostrils ·78, tarsus ·80.”

I add some remarks on the other types of *Dendrocolaptidæ* in the U.S. Nat. Museum, which have been sent to me for examination.

(1) *PHACELLODOMUS INORNATUS*, Ridgway, Pr. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1887, p. 152.

I confess I am not inclined to separate this Venezuelan form specifically from *P. frontalis*. Two specimens from Venezuela in my collection show the rufous front very plainly, though it is not quite so well marked as in typical Brazilian skins. I have examined specimens of what I consider is the same bird from Peru (*Stolzmann*), Pernambuco (*Forbes*), Bahia (*Wucherer*), Matto Grosso (*H. H. Smith*), Bolivia (*Bridges*), and Salta, rep. Arg. (*Durnford*).

(2) *DENDRORNIS PUNCTIGULA*, Ridgw. MS.

This form from Costa Rica I consider barely separable from *Dendrornis erythropygia*, originally described from Mexico (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 366), but of which I have a series before me, in my own and the Salvin-Godman collections, extending through Central America to Panama, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Bolivia. The principal question, to my mind, is whether the difference between *D. erythropygia* and the nearly allied *D. triangularis* can be maintained. The main distinction is the red rump of *D. erythropygia*, which is not apparent in *D. triangularis* of the highlands of Colombia*.

* It is only fair to say that Mr. Ridgway does not accede to this view. He writes to me as follows upon this point:—

“As to the *Dendrornis*, I admit that my ‘new’ bird is what *has been called* *D. erythropygia*, from Costa Rica and Veragua, but, at the same time, claim that it is different. True *D. erythropygia*, from Guatemala and Southern Mexico, is a smaller bird, with smaller and more curved bill, much lighter coloration, especially above, where the hind neck and upper back are conspicuously streaked, and with the markings on the throat narrower, or in the form of bars or lunules rather than spots. In fact, the Central-American (*i. e.*, Costa-Rican and Veraguan) bird looks to me much more like *D. triangularis*, from Colombia and Ecuador, the principal difference being that *D. triangularis* has the pileum and nape distinctly ‘guttated’ and the rump less rufescent. These distinctions I find fully borne out by the following series, now before me:—

(3) *DENDRORNIS LAWRENCII*, Ridgw. Pr. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1887, p. 509 (Panama).

(4) *DENDRORNIS LAWRENCII COSTARICENSIS*, Ridgw. op. cit. p. 510 (Costa Rica).

I am sorry to be obliged to differ with Mr. Ridgway, but I am still of opinion that the Panama bird, which he now proposes to call *D. lawrencii*, and its Costa-Rican representative cannot be separated from *D. susurrans*. I have lately had a large series before me from Honduras, Costa Rica, Veragua, Panama, Santa Marta, Venezuela, Trinidad, and Tobago—between thirty and forty specimens. There is much individual variation; but in the Dendrocolaptinæ such is usually the case, and some of the Panama skins of this bird are quite like the Tobago birds, upon which the species was founded.

Mr. Lawrence has called this bird *D. pardalotus* and *D. guttata*; and if his *D. nana* is different, I am not acquainted with it. See remarks by Mr. Salvin and myself upon this subject, P. Z. S. 1870, p. 839.

(5) *PICOLAPTES GRACILIS*, Ridgw. (Costa Rica).

This species is quite new to me, and different from anything I know. It is remarkable for its short bill and small size.

(6) *DENDROCINCLA RUFO-OLIVACEA*, Ridgw. Pr. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1887, p. 493.

This is the bird I call *D. fuliginosa* (Vieill.)—a species not identified by Mr. Ridgway in his monograph. I have specimens from British Guiana (*Whitely*) and Para (*Wallace*), and there are others in the Salvin-Godman collection.

(7) *DENDROCINCLA CASTANOPTERA*, Ridgw. op. cit. p. 494.
I have examples of the same bird from Surinam (*Bartlett*)

	Total.
" <i>D. erythropygia</i> : Mexico, 1; Guatemala, 8 specimens	9
" <i>D. punctigula</i> : Costa Rica, 8; Veragua, 1	9
" <i>D. triangularis</i> : Turbo, 1; 'Bogota,' 1; Guayaquil, 1	3
	21 "

and Borba (*Natterer*), and Messrs. Salvin and Godman have it from British Guiana (*Whately*) and Chamicuros, E. Peru. I refer them all to *D. merula* (Licht.).

- (8) *DENDROCOLAPTES OBSOLETUS*, Ridgw. Pr. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1887, p. 527 (Lower Amazons).

I have nearly similar examples from Para (*Wallace*) and Pernambuco (*Forbes*), but have not ventured to separate them from *D. certhia* (Bodd.).

- (9) *SCLERURUS CANIGULARIS*, Ridgw. (Costa Rica).

This appears to be the same as the Venezuelan bird which Mr. Salvin and I call *S. albigularis*. See P. Z. S. 1868, p. 630.

XXXIV.—*Notes on Woodpeckers*.—No. XVII. *On an apparently unnamed Species of Picumnus from Guiana*. By EDWARD HARGITT, F.Z.S.

THERE has been great diversity of opinion as to the *Picumnus* described by Linneus as *Pipra minuta*, Dr. Cabanis taking it to be the Guianan species (for which I am about to propose a new name), while Sundevall considers Linneus's bird to have belonged to the Brazilian species, which has the colour much more yellow and the back spotted with black. Linneus's type existed in the Museum of Adolphus Frederick at Stockholm, and the view taken by the eminent Director of the Stockholm Museum (possibly derived from those who may have seen the type, or from tradition) is, to my mind, the one which ought to be adopted. I have examined the specimens in the Stockholm Museum named *P. minutus* by Sundevall, and they belong (without doubt) to the Brazilian species, not to the Guianan *P. minutus* of Cabanis. The latter name being preoccupied, and no other being applicable to the Guianan bird, I propose for it the title of *Picumnus undulatus*, and add a brief diagnosis of its characters.

PICUMNUS UNDULATUS, sp. n.

♂. Similar to *P. minutus* (Linn.), but distinguished by

